

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**COMPUTER VIRUS DETECTION**

A computer virus outbreak is detected by comparing one or more measurement parameters determined over a measurement period against a threshold level. The  
10 measurement parameters can include a measurement of how many E-mail messages are sent having an identical file attachment, file type or simply in total. The threshold levels may be varied with the time of day and day of week as well as the tests applied.

[Figure 4]